

**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: Q90575

Mitsuaki HATA

Appln. No.: 10/550,891

Group Art Unit: 1762

Confirmation No.: 3716

Examiner: Kirsten JOLLEY

Filed: September 27, 2005

For: METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING MASK BLANKS

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

**MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), and therefore Applicant is filing concurrently herewith a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e). No fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application (European Office Action corresponding to European Patent Application No. 04723709.4, dated January 24, 2011), citing such documents: JP-A-06099124 and JP-A-10156273 (which were previously cited in an IDS filed September 27, 2005), EP1014195A1, USP 5,849,435 and JP-A-01214023 (which were previously cited in an IDS filed March 31, 2010) and USP Publication No. 2002/000424A1 (which was previously cited in an IDS filed September 27, 2005), together with an English-language version (if not already included) of at least that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office. Applicant is also submitting herewith JP-A-11262720 (corresponding to JP-B-3309079, which was cited in an IDS filed September 27, 2005).

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

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